

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

Claims 1-11 and 16-22 are pending and under consideration.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112:

With respect to the feature "a position in the real world", as previously noted, this feature is disclosed at page 24, lines 22-23, and page 26, lines 16-18 of the present Specification.

In response, the Examiner presently states that the present Specification does not disclose position in the real world, but instead refers to rooms. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's position, since the reference to rooms is in fact a reference to a position in the real world. The Examiner appears to improperly require the exact terminology "position in the real world." However, it is respectfully submitted that such exact terminology is not necessary.

Thus, the rejection is respectfully traversed.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103:

Using independent claim 1 as an example, this claim recites a computer network system in which plural connecting means capable of connecting and disconnecting a computer is provided in a network circuit to which a first computer has been connected, and a second computer is connected to one of said connecting means.

The Examiner relies upon column 6, lines 12-28 and 41-45 of Weiser as disclosing the first and second computers. Office Action, p.3, ln. 4-7. These portions refer to a network 12, a plurality of stationary workstations 18 connected to the network 12, and gateway computers 15 for wireless connection to the network 12. Thus, the Examiner is relying upon one of the gateway computer 15 or workstation 18 as corresponding to the first computer, and the other of the gateway computer 15 or workstation 18 as corresponding to the second computer.

However, the workstation 18 is an example of a resource, as described at column 7, lines 21-25 of Weiser. The gateway computer 15 translates a signal between the wireless communication from a transceiver and the communication packets sent over network 12. Weiser, col. 6, ln. 42-46.

Independent claim 1 further recites that when the second computer is connected to the network circuit through any one of said connecting means, the resource setting means receives the hardware or software information and directly sets the hardware or software. However, to establish this relationship between the gateway computer 15 and the workstation 18, both of these elements must be within the same room. This is because the walls 13 are opaque to wireless transmission. Weiser, col. 6, ln. 23-24. Thus, the gateway computer 15 or workstation 18 corresponding to the claimed second computer cannot be connected via "any one" of said plural connecting means, as claimed. Instead, the gateway computer 15 or workstation 18 must be connected to the network 12 via the connector that is in the same room.

The Examiner relies upon column 7, lines 65-67 and column 8, lines 1-4 as teaching the claimed features regarding the second computer being connected through any one of the plural connecting units. This portion relates to the architecture of the room agent 48. The room agent 48 resides on one or more processors coupled to the network, and is not disclosed as being on the gateway computer 15 or the workstation 18. Weiser, col. 7, ln. 46-47. Thus, there appears to be an inconsistency in the Examiner's position. Specifically, the Examiner first relies upon the gateway computer 15 or workstation 18 as corresponding to the claimed first or second computer, and then relies upon the room agent 48 as corresponding to the second computer.

Alternatively, if the Examiner relies upon the mobile controllers 24, 26 of Weiser as corresponding to the claimed second computer, then the room agent 48 would correspond to the first computer. However, there is no teaching that the mobile controllers 24, 26 directly set the hardware.

It is also noted that Weiser does not teach that the second computer directly sets the hardware, as claimed. The Examiner relies upon column 11, lines 35-46 of Weiser. However, this portion teaches the function of the room agent and the resource agent, not the resource setting means of the second computer.

Based on the above, withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

CONCLUSION:

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.


Serial No. 09/017,329

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: 3-16-06

By: 
Michael J. Badagliacca
Registration No. 39,099

1201 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
Telephone: (202) 434-1500
Facsimile: (202) 434-1501